

Commonwealth of Virginia
Department of Social Services



ONS TRANSMITTAL NUMBER 08 - 07 **DATE:** September 26, 2008

☐ ACTION ITEM

☒ INFORMATIONAL ITEM

Subject: Correction to ONS Transmittal 08-03 Titled *Special Immigrant Visa Holders Now Eligible For Refugee Services*

To: ONS Resettlement Provider Directors

From: Kathy A. Cooper 
Virginia State Refugee Coordinator
Virginia Office of Newcomer Services

Effective: Immediately

Contact: penny.boyd@dss.virginia.gov or 804-726-7933

This ONS Transmittal updates information in ONS Transmittal 08-03 dated February 12, 2008. That transmittal addressed the eligibility of Iraqis and Afghans with special immigrant visas for refugee services.

The only change to information in ONS Transmittal 08-03 is to Attachment One which lists the acceptable documentation for Afghan nationals with special immigrant visas.

The revised Attachment One contains updated visa category codes that refugee resettlement staff may accept as sufficient documentation that an **Afghan** applying for benefits is a qualified alien who is immediately eligible for benefits. This revision reflects changes to the category codes the United States Immigration and Citizenship Services (USCIS) is now issuing to Afghans who are eligible for a special immigrant visa.

The eligibility period for an Afghan with a special immigrant visa remains six months.

Required Documentation for Afghani SIV Holders

Applicant	Documentation
Principal Applicant Afghan Special Immigrant	SI1 or SQ1 Afghan passport with an immigrant visa stamp noting that the individual has been admitted under IV (Immigrant Visa) Category SI1 or SQ1 and DHS stamp or notation on passport or I-94 showing date of entry
Spouse of Principal Applicant Afghan Special Immigrant	SI2 or SQ2 Afghan passport with an immigrant visa stamp noting that the individual has been admitted under IV (Immigrant Visa) Category SI2 or SQ2 and DHS stamp or notation on passport or I-94 showing date of entry
Unmarried Child Under 21 Years of Age of Afghan Special Immigrant	SI3 or SQ 3 Afghan passport with an immigrant visa stamp noting that the individual has been admitted under IV (Immigrant Visa) Category SI3 or SQ 3 and DHS stamp or notation on passport or I-94 showing date of entry
Principal Applicant Afghan Special Immigrant Principal Adjusting Status in the U.S.	DHS Form I-551 ("green card") showing Afghan nationality (or Afghan passport), with an IV (Immigrant Visa) code of SI6 or SQ6
Spouse of Principal Applicant Afghan Special Immigrant in P6 Category	DHS Form I-551 ("green card") showing Afghan nationality (or Afghan passport), with an IV (Immigrant Visa) code of SI7
Unmarried Child Under 21 Years of Age of Afghan Special Immigrant in P6 Category	DHS Form I-551 ("green card") showing Afghan Nationality (or Afghan passport), with an IV ("immigrant visa") code of SI9 or SQ9